## Warden Message – U.S. Embassy, Quito, Ecuador

## **Driver Strike Ongoing in Province of Imbabura**

October 25, 2010

The U.S. Embassy in Quito informs U.S. citizens visiting or residing in Ecuador that a bus and taxi driver strike is taking place in northern Ecuador at this time. According to police in the province of Imbabura, buses and taxis are not providing services in the major cities throughout the entire province. This includes the cities of Cotacachi, Ibarra and Otavalo. At this time, there appear to be no roadblocks. Schools throughout the province have been cancelled due to lack of transportation.

A meeting is scheduled to discuss the strike. Until the problem is resolved, U.S. citizens are advised that transportation may be difficult in the affected areas.

U.S. citizens should monitor local news outlets for updates and additional information.

Americans living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate and to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador through the <u>Department of State's travel</u> registration website.

U.S. citizens should consult the <u>Country Specific Information</u> for Ecuador and the latest Travel Alerts and Warnings and Worldwide Caution at the <u>Department's website</u>. Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

The U.S. Embassy in Quito is located at Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro. The telephone number for American Citizen Service (ACS) inquiries is (011 593-2) 398-5000. Within the same city use the last seven digits. Add the city code for intercity telephone calls. Public call-in hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. and Friday 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Appointments for ACS are available through our website.

The <u>U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil</u> is located at the corner of Avenida 9 de Octubre and Garcia Moreno (near the Hotel Oro Verde); telephone (011-593-4) 232-3570 during business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or 232-1152 for after-hours emergencies.

Anyone can follow the activities of the U.S. Embassy in Ecuador through the <u>Embassy web site</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.